The Ups & Downs of Political Life

OR

The Adventures of Mr G Raball

by J Gilmour

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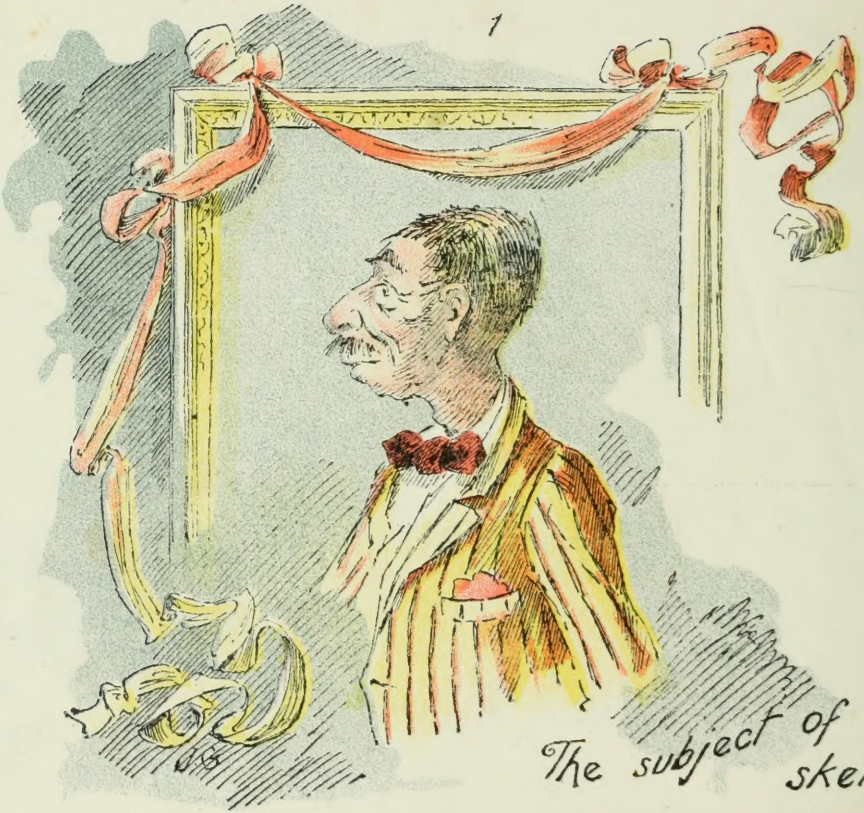

The subject of our sketch —

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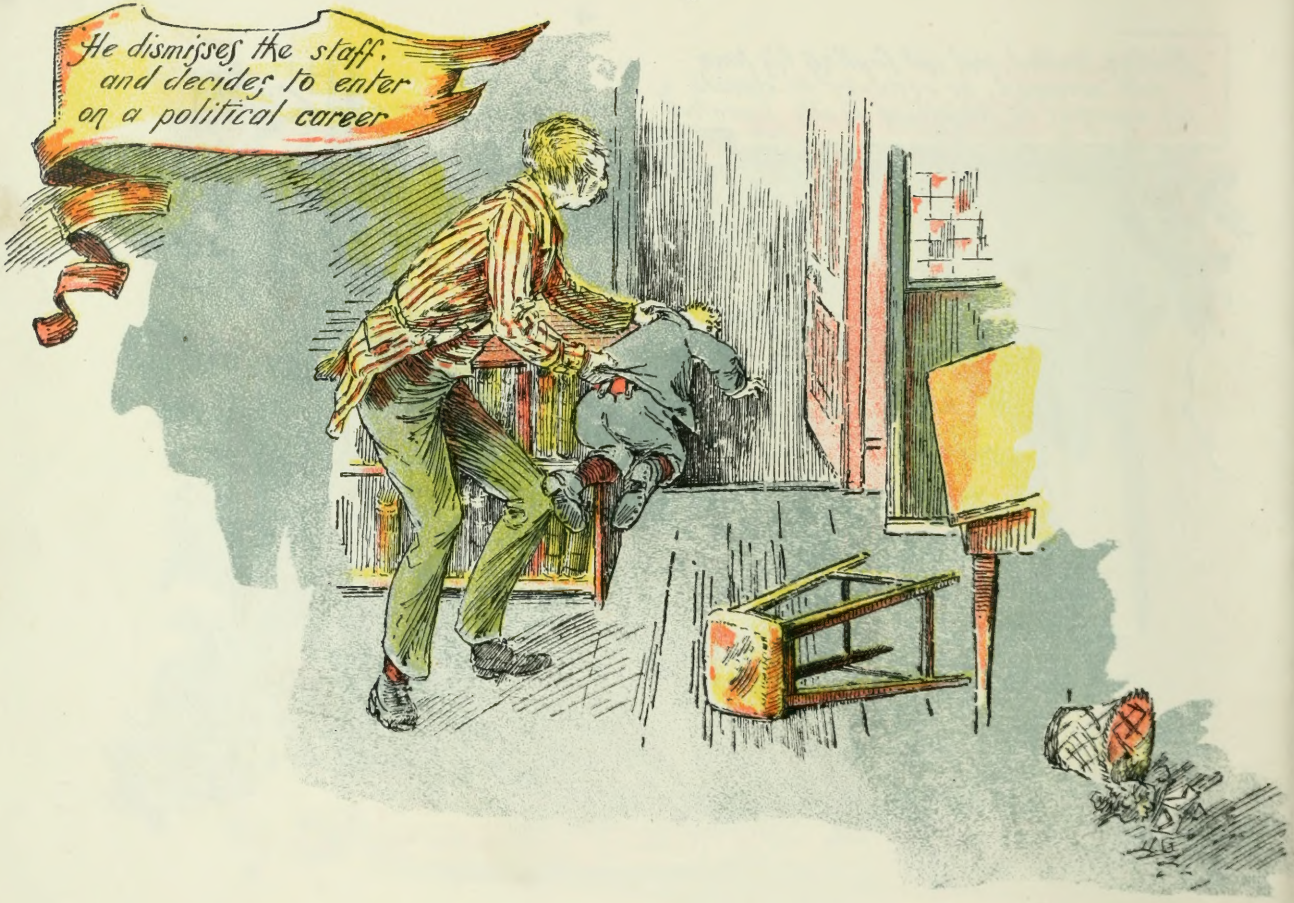
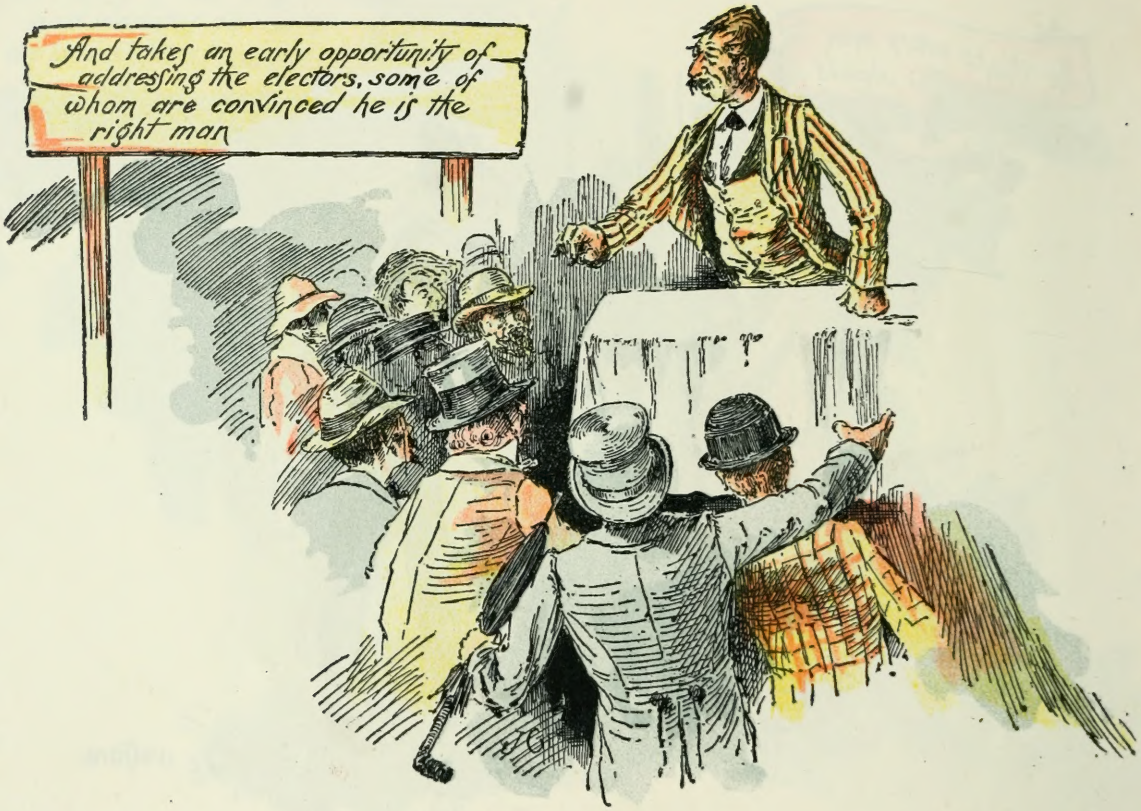
That rush of Clients
which his modesty led him to expect

Having waited, and not finding his time
fully occupied, he resolves to devote
his energies to something really lucrative


He dismisses the staff,
and decides to enter
on a political career

He thinks every man should –
take an interest in the welfare of his country


And takes an early opportunity of addressing the electors, some of whom are convinced he is the right man

Others again think differently
and say so.

His admirers however are in the majority and he is elected M.P.

He next applies to an old friend for sufficient ready money to start him on his way to fame &c

Having taken his seat in Parliament, his grasp of financial matters is at once recognized and he is intrusted with the arranging of several government contracts

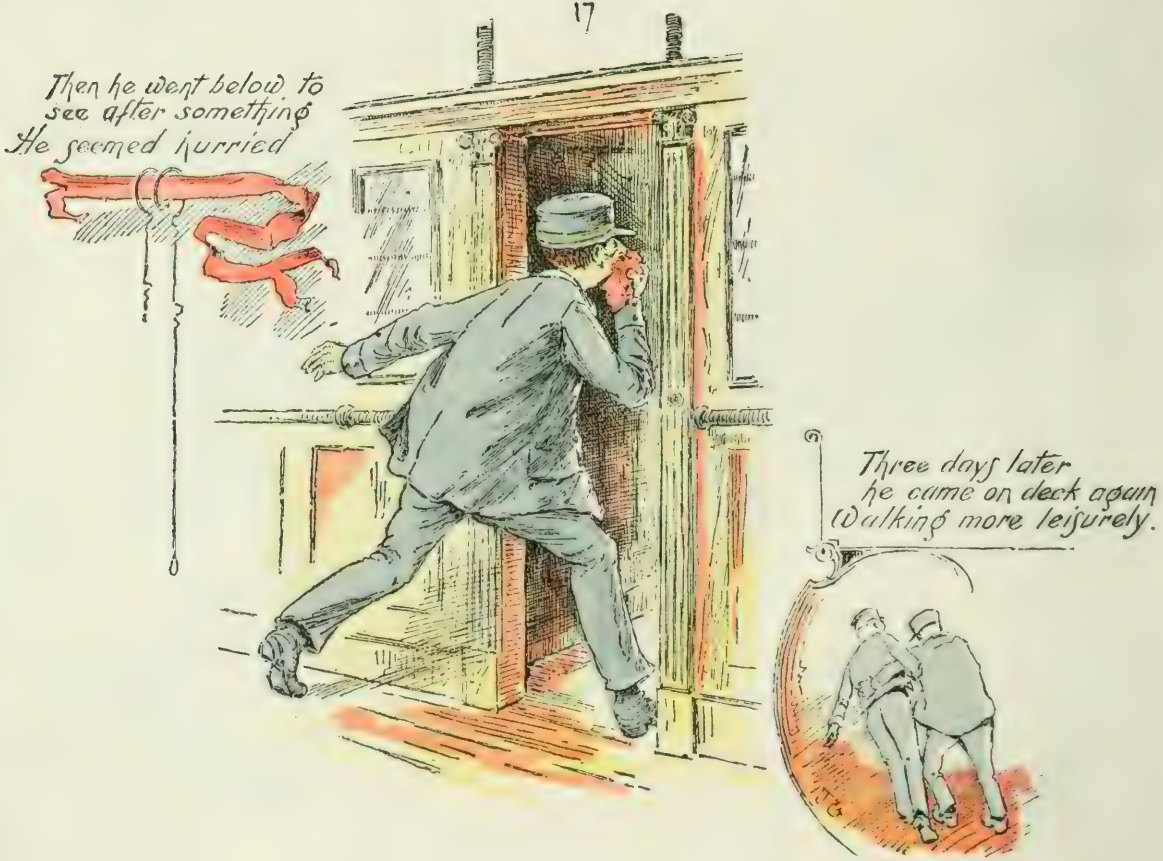
He begins to find himself
in more comfortable
circumstances

And appoints a few relatives to desirable positions

This rigid attention to his duties begins to tell on him. He is persuaded to take a holiday, and his friends turn out to bid him adieu

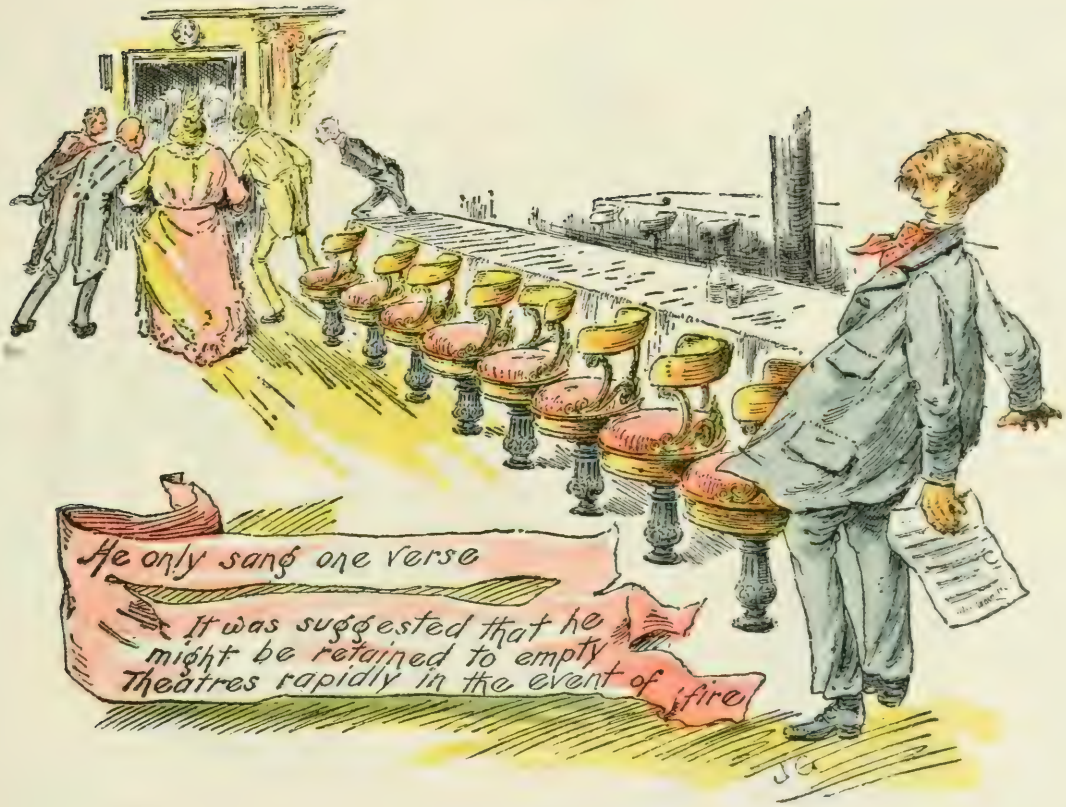
As he is very thorough in his ideas he dons a complete nautical outfit
so that he may harmonize with his surroundings during the voyage

The first day out he harmonized up till noon, when he was seen gazing intently into the heaving wave—
It was remarked that he appeared perturbed


Then he went below to see after something He seemed hurried
Three days later he came on deck again Walking more leisurely.

He made great progress with that nice Miss Jones until the confounded steward———
assisted him to soup.

He executed a ballad entitled 'Ta-ra-ra-boom-de-ay during the 1st verse the audience seemed spellbound.


He only sang one verse
It was suggested that he might be retained to empty Theatres rapidly in the event of fire

When he arrives at his destination he finds that the people are not so much impressed by his greatness as some of his Canadian friends

Nevertheless he receives marked attention

And certain citizens are eager to carry his baggage

He enjoys himself as much as possible
But is forced to journey onward as he has —

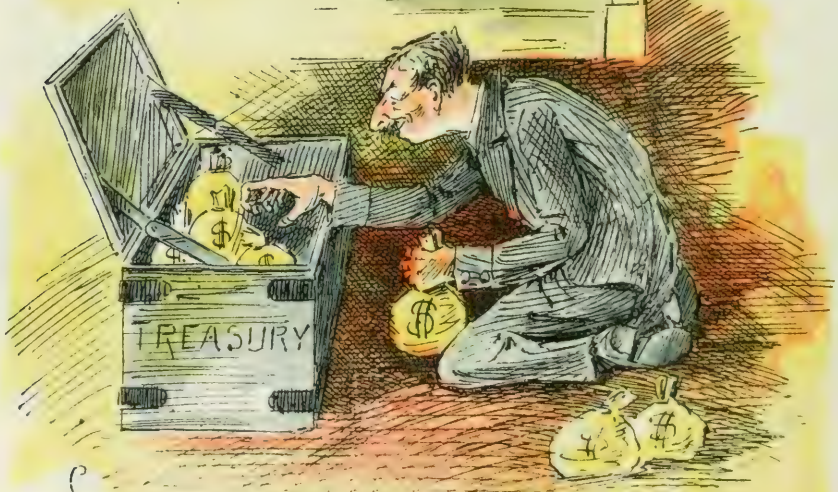
Important business to transact
in Paris

He learns the game of ecarté

and plays it with great profit to his opponents

He gets back to his hotel feeling tired

Returning to Canada



he resumes his parliamentary duties

But some envious people begin to make unpleasant remarks

He is invited to explain several little matters

His explanation is fluent but unsatisfactory

Finally he is spurned by his ungrateful country
And goes to seek a haven where contractors cease from troubling and the boodlers are at rest